

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 041109
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P 240026Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 041109

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

1. RE MOSCOW 2089, WE VERY MUCH LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING BILL FARRAND IN WASHINGTON IN MARCH. I UNDERSTAND THAT COMMERCE INTENDS TO PICK UP THE TAB FOR HIS CONSULATIONS. BILL SHOULD CALL BILL EDGAR AT HIS CONVENIENCE AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN THE US TO DISCUSS THE APPOINTMENTS HE WANTS US TO MAKE AT STATE.

2. WE WON'T SAY ANYTHING TO HERB ABOUT STAYING AT YOUR PLACE, LEAVING THIS FOR YOU TO HANDLE ON THE SPOT. WE HAVE TRIED TO ORGANIZE THE TRIP SO THAT HE DOES NOT HAVE TOO HIGH A PROFILE AROUND THE EMBASSY, AND AFTER HE GETS THERE YOU CAN SEE WHETHER CONTINUED CAUTION IN THIS DIRECTION IS NECESSARY.

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A POSSIBLE CANDIDATE FOR THE BELOUSOVICH SPOT IS JOHN PARKER, A INR OFFICER WHO HAS DONE GOOD WORK ON THE LEADERSHIP AND POLITICAL-ECONOMIC THEMES. HE SEEMS TO FILL THE INSPECTOR'S BILL FOR SOMEONE WITH ECONOMIC AS WELL AS POLITICAL CREDENTIALS IN THAT JOB. DALE HERSPRING, WHO HAS SPENT THE LAST YEAR AND HALF IN SOV

AND IS VERY TALENTED IS BEING THOUGHT OF FOR THE PRESEL
JOB AND BILL KUSHLIS, ALSO OF SOV IS A CANDIDATE FOR
PPO IN 78. BILL'S WIFE IS A USIA OFFICER ALREADY PANELLED
TO MOSCOW. NICK LANG, WHO HAS BEEN IN INR/REC IS BEING
CONSIDERED FOR THE MAY JOB. HE HAS A GOOD BACKGROUND
AND, LIKE PARKER, PRETTY GOOD RUSSIAN ALREADY. WELCOME
YOUR REACTION.

4. IN CONNECTION WITH KEN SKOUG'S UPCOMING TRIP TO THE
NORTHERN GAS AREAS, THE DISTRIBUTION OF STATE 38262
PROMPTED A QUERY FROM THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY HERE AS
TO WHETHER THE REQUIREMENTS APPLIED TO MEMBERS OF THE
DELEGATION OTHER THAN KEN. WE SAID NO; REAFFIRMING
THE POLICY THAT EXCHANGE VISITORS TO THE USSR WILL NOT
BE TARGETED IN ADVANCE IN ANY FASHION. THE GAS DELEGATION
DID RECEIVE A BRIEFING HERE, INCLUDING A PRESENTATION
BY AN ATTRIBUTED CIA OFFICIAL ON STATE OF THE ART IN THE
USSR, BUT THERE WAS NO INTENTION TO SUGGEST THAT
DELEGATION MEMBERS SHOULD UNDERTAKE INTELLIGENCE COLLEC-
TION. WE HOPE THERE WAS NO MISUNDERSTANDING AND WOULD
ASK KEN TO BE ALERT LEST ANY DELEGATION MEMBER CONVEY
WRONG IMPRESSIONS TO SOVIETS.

5. RE PARA 4 YESTERDAY'S O-I, I WILL TRY TO CONVEY
FEELING FOR SITUATION, I HOPE NOT TOO CRYPTICALLY. AS
YOU WILL HAVE PERCEIVED, FOR EXAMPLE FROM PRESS
CONFERENCE TODAY, A NUMBER OF SUGGESTIONS STRUCK
RESPONSIVE CHORD, E.G. BROADENING THE SCOPE TO REST
OF WORLD. RE LETTING THEM KNOW ABOUT LETTER, DIRECT
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MESSAGE TO YOU MADE CLEAR THE FEELING THAT THIS HAD
BEEN SUFFICIENTLY TAKEN CARE OF, AND I SENSE PERHAPS
THAT APPLIES IN A BROADER SENSE AS WELL. I DETECTED
FEELING THAT ASSESSMENT OF PROBABLE SOVIET REACTION
WENT TOO FAR, AND THERE WAS NEGATIVE REACTION TO
SUGGESTIONS IN FIRST REFERENCED MESSAGE CONTAINED IN
PARA 7 (E). RE SECOND REFERENCED MESSAGE, WE HAVE PUT
UP RECOMMENDATION TO TAKE CARE OF ALLEGATIONS DURING
UPCOMING MEETING HERE, AND HAVE ALSO SUGGESTED AT SAME
TIME MAKING BROADER APPROACH WHICH WOULD TO SOME EXTENT
EMBRACE THOUGHT BEHIND FIRST REFERENCED MESSAGE BY
OFFERING INDICATING IN EFFECT TO HOLD DOWN POLEMICS IF
THEY WILL NOT TAKE NEW ACTIONS (HAVING IN MIND
SENTENCING OF THOSE ALREADY IN AS WELL AS GRABBING
OTHERS). NO INDICATION HOW THIS HAS BEEN RECEIVED.

VANCE

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